Application No.: 10/523,287
Filing Date: February 3, 2005

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A process for producing an *N*-monoalkyl-3-hydroxy-3-(2-thienyl)propanamine represented by General Formula (2):

$$R$$
  $R$   $(2)$ 

wherein R is  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl, comprising the step of reducing a (*Z*)-*N*-monoalkyl-3-oxo-3-(2-thienyl)propenamine, in the presence of a carboxylic acid, represented by General Formula (1):

wherein R is as defined above.

- 2. (Original) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the (*Z*)-*N*-monoalkyl-3-oxo-3-(2-thienyl)propenamine is reduced using sodium borohydride or sodium cyanoborohydride.
- 3. (Cancelled)
- 4. (Original) A (*Z*)-*N*-monoalkyl-3-oxo-3-(2-thienyl)propenamine represented by General Formula (1):

wherein R is C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl.

- 5. (Original) The (*Z*)-*N*-monoalkyl-3-oxo-3-(2-thienyl)propenamine according to Claim 4, wherein R in General Formula (1) is methyl.
- 6. (Original) A process for producing a (*Z*)-*N*-monoalkyl-3-oxo-3-(2-thienyl)propenamine represented by General Formula (1):

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wherein R is  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl, comprising the step of reacting an alkali metal salt of  $\beta$ -oxo- $\beta$ -(2-thienyl)propanal represented by General Formula (3):

$$\begin{array}{c}
\bigcirc \\
\bigcirc \\
\bigcirc \\
\bigcirc \\
\bigcirc
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\bigcirc \\
M^{\oplus}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
(3)$$

wherein M is an alkali metal atom, with a monoalkylamine compound represented by General Formula (4):

$$H_2N-R$$
 (4)

wherein R is as defined above.

7. (Currently amended) A process for producing an *N*-monoalkyl-3-hydroxy-3-(2-thienyl)propanamine represented by General Formula (2):

$$N$$
  $R$   $(2)$ 

wherein R is  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl, comprising the steps of:

reacting an alkali metal salt of  $\beta$ -oxo- $\beta$ -(2-thienyl)propanal represented by General Formula (3):

$$\begin{array}{c}
\bigcirc \\
S \\
O \\
M \\
\end{array}$$
(3)

wherein M is an alkali metal atom, with a monoalkylamine compound represented by General Formula (4):

$$H_2N-R$$
 (4)

wherein R is as defined above, to give a (*Z*)-*N*-monoalkyl-3-oxo-3-(2-thienyl)propenamine represented by General Formula (1):

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wherein R is as defined above; and

reducing the (Z)-N-monoalkyl-3-oxo-3-(2-thienyl)propenamine, in the presence of a carboxylic acid.

- 8. (Original) The process according to Claim 7, wherein the (*Z*)-*N*-monoalkyl-3-oxo-3-(2-thienyl)propenamine is reduced using sodium borohydride or sodium cyanoborohydride.
- 9. (Cancelled)